

B-3485 - B-3487
108-112 E. West St. (North side)
Baltimore, Md.
Semi-public access

1855-1899

The north side of the 100 block of E. West St. is occupied exclusively by the Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church and its subsidiary buildings. The large Gothic Revival style red brick church building, with its imposing east end apse and tower, was built in the late 1850's for the increasingly large German Catholic population in the community. The church building is located at 108 E. West St. To the east, at 110 E. West St. is the three story, five bay wide brick parish office, with shed roof and deep, paneled wooden cornice. This simple, Classical Revival structure was built in the early 1870's to serve as a school operated by the church. At 112 E. West St. is the Carruthers building, now the Allen Center for Senior Citizens, an imposing three story, five bay wide brown brick building with shed roof and elaborate Classical Revival stone trim, including a simulated brick "rusticated" basement, full-height arched bays, and a wide arched entranceway. The building was constructed in the 1890's.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Allen Center for Senior Citizens

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

112 E. West St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

Liber #:

Folio #:

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three story, five bay wide brick building with flat roof was built in 1899 to serve as the Carruthers Center for the Holy Cross Church complex. The building now serves as the Allen Center for Senior Citizens.

The building is three stories in height, five bays wide, and extends back on its lot about 120'. The building is constructed in brown brick laid in running bond. The flat roof is capped by a plain wooden cornice set above a freize area decorated with patterned brickwork. The facade is designed in a Renaissance Revival style, with arched upper stories set on a high rusticated basement that comprises the entire first floor level. The facade is divided into five bays, each marked by a tall round arch springing from brick piers with Doric capitals decorated with egg-and-dart moldings. The central bay projects slightly. Between the window areas of the second and third floors each bay has a recessed brick panel. The rusticated basement is constructed of brickwork laid in horizontal bands to give the effect of cut stone and the tall first floor window lintels are likewise designed to approximate the effect of stone lintels.

The original treatment of the third floor, arched windows has been obscured by a modern in-fill which consists of a pair of double hung 1/1 sash set beneath a fixed pane cut to fit the arch. These sash have all been painted. The second and third floor window openings have been filled with small-scale glass blocks. The second floor windows have rustic stone lintels and sills. The first floor windows have stylized splayed brick lintels of vertically laid stretchers designed to give the effect of a stone lintel with a keystone. The sills are rustic stone and connect to a rustic stone band that runs across the entire facade at this level.

The entire building sits on a high stone basement with two rectangular basement windows set on either side of the entrance. There is an elaborate stone entryway consisting of a tall pediment filled with a carved sunburst design with a large stone cross at the peak of the gable and a freize area below with the words "The Carruthers Center" inscribed in gold. The pediment is supported by two Doric piers with a band of egg-and-dart decoration on the capitals. These flank a round arched entryway with keystone which frames the modernized doorway. Both piers and entryway are set on tall stone bases. Beyond the archway there is modern double glass and aluminum door set beneath a deep arched transom area which has been filled with a wooden panel. The entrance is reached by ten wide stone steps. Along the William St. facade of the building the original segmentally arched windows, filled with 1/1 double hung sash with a solid wood tympanum above, survive. The third floor windows have round arched lintels but are filled with opaque panes as are the windows on the main facade at that level. The decorative facade treatment extends back along the William St. facade for the depth of one bay.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1899, 1860; 1885 (tower) BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Holy Cross Church is extremely important to the Federal Hill/South Baltimore area as being the first church constructed in the area for the growing German Catholic population, composed mainly of quite recent immigrants. For many years after its opening services were conducted in German and the church has always played an important part in the life of the German community of the area. In 1881 a parochial school adjoining the church was opened which closed only recently. The area to the rear of the school building has long served the neighborhood as a playground. At the present time the Allen Center for Senior Citizens is located in the former Carruthers Center of the church, and plays an important role in the life of the elderly residents of the community, both Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

STREET & NUMBER

5/79

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

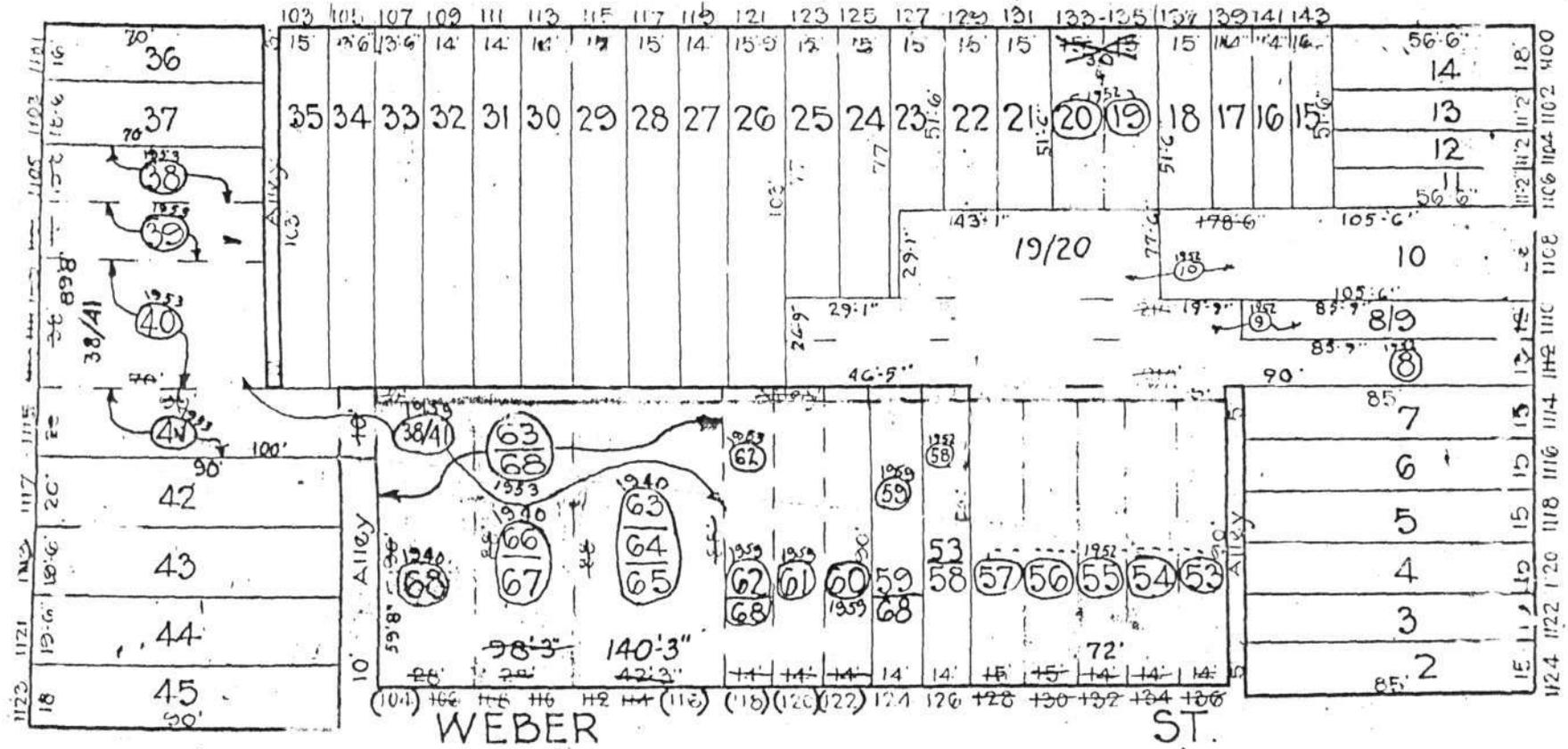
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

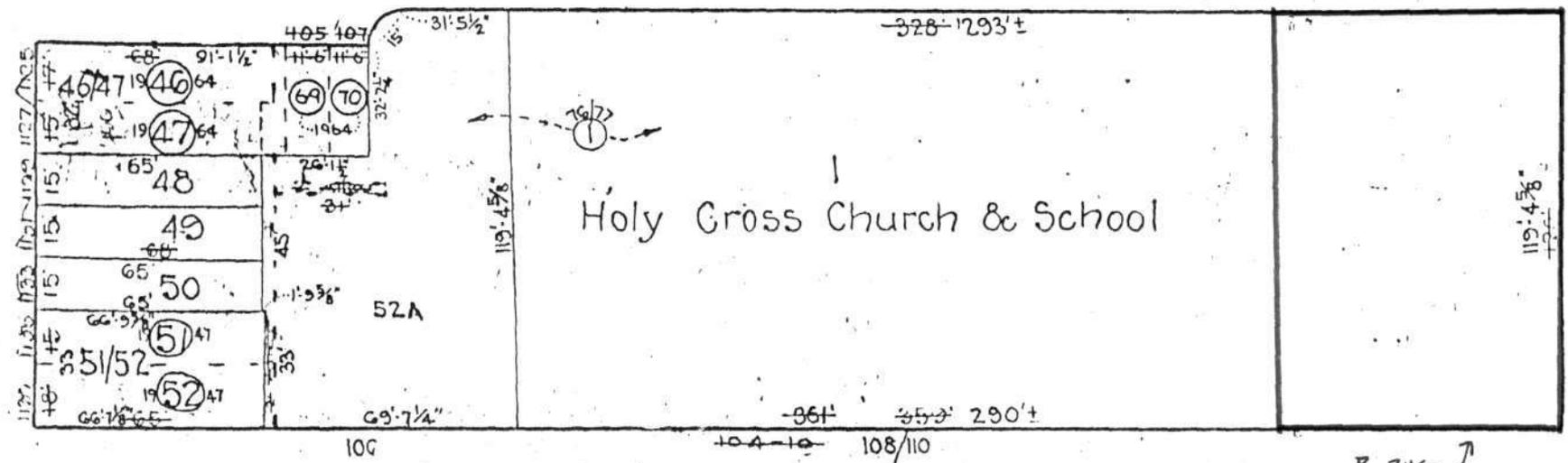
E. CROSS

ST.



ST.

LIGHT



E. WEST

ST.

B-3487
WILLIAM

B-3487

B-3487
Allen Center for Senior Citizens
112 E. West Street
Block 0951 Lot CO0951
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3487

112 E. West St.

- M.E.H.

6/79

South and east elevations